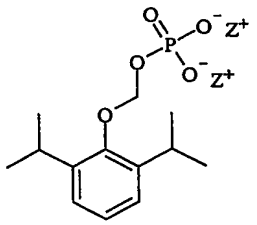
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of inducing or maintaining general anesthesia comprising administering to a subject in need thereof at least one bolus injection of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

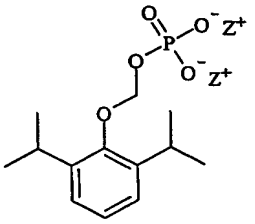
wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from greater than 10 to about 50 mg per kilogram of body weight.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from about 15 to about 30 mg per kilogram of body weight to cause loss of consciousness.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from greater than 10 to about 20 mg per kilogram of body weight to maintain loss of consciousness.

4. A method of inducing or maintaining general anesthesia comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine; and

administering a second anesthetic or sedative agent.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the second anesthetic or sedative agent is selected from the group consisting of midazolam, fentanyl, meperidine, propofol, and combinations thereof.

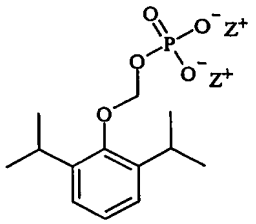
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the second anesthetic or sedative agent is an opiate analgesic selected from the group consisting of meperidine, fentanyl, and combinations thereof.

7. The method of claim 4 wherein the compound of Formula I is administered by parenteral infusion.

8. The method of claim 4 wherein the compound of Formula I is administered by one or more bolus injections.

9. A method of inducing and maintaining general anesthesia in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine, in a first amount sufficient to cause loss of consciousness; and

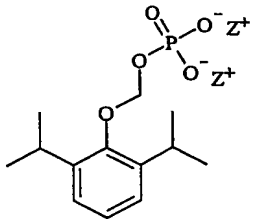
administering, once or repeatedly, to said subject a compound of Formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in a second amount sufficient to maintain loss of consciousness.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the first amount is administered by a bolus injection at a dose of from about 15 to about 30 mg per kilogram of body weight to cause loss of consciousness, and the second amount is administered by a bolus injection at a dose of from about 10 to about 20 mg per kilogram of body weight to maintain loss of consciousness.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the first amount is administered by parenteral infusion, and the second amount is administered by parenteral infusion at a rate of from about 10 to about 35 mg/min to maintain loss of consciousness.

12. A method of producing a sedated state in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



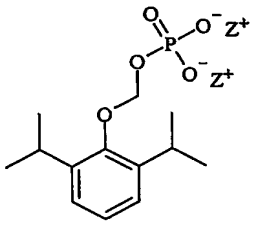
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

wherein the compound is administered by at least one parenteral bolus injection in an amount of from about 2 mg/kg to less than 15 mg/kg.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from about 5 mg/kg to about 10 mg/kg.

14. A method of inducing and maintaining a sedated state in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine, in an amount sufficient to maintain the sedated state; and

administering, once or repeatedly, to said subject a compound of Formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in a second amount sufficient to maintain the sedated state.

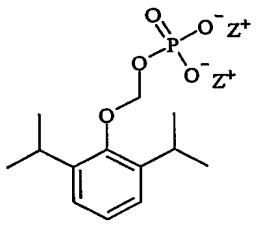
15. The method of claim 14 wherein the first amount is administered by a bolus injection at a dose of from about 5 to about 15 mg per kilogram of body weight, and the second amount is administered by a bolus injection at a dose of from about 2 to about 10 mg per kilogram of body weight.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the first amount is administered by a parenteral infusion at a rate of from about 5 mg/min. to about 25 mg/min., and the

second amount is administered by a parenteral infusion at a rate of from about 5 to about 15 mg/min.

17. A method of producing a sedated state in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a parenteral infusion of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

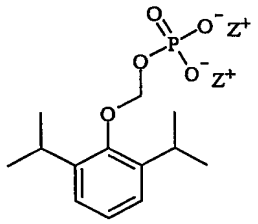
wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from about 5 to about 25 mg/min.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from about 7 to about 20 mg/min.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the compound is administered in an amount of from about 7 to about 15 mg/min.

20. A method of producing a sedated state in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine; and

administering a second agent selected from anesthetic, analgesic, and sedative agents.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the second agent is selected from the group consisting of midazolam, opiate analgesics, propofol, and combinations thereof.

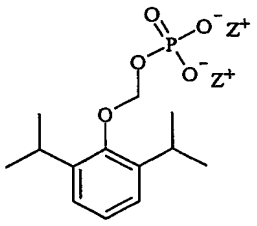
22. The method of claim 21 wherein the second agent is an opiate analgesic selected from the group consisting of meperidine, fentanyl, and combinations thereof.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the compound of Formula I is administered by parenteral infusion.

24. The method of claim 20 wherein the compound of Formula I is administered by one or more bolus injections.

25. A method of treating at least one condition selected from the group consisting of an epileptic condition, nausea or vomiting, pruritus, pathologic respiratory conditions related to oxidative tissue damage and pathologic conditions having an inflammatory component, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



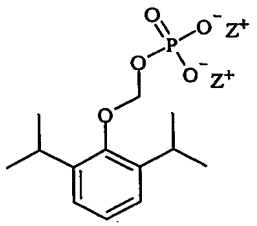
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the compound is administered by parenteral infusion.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein the compound is administered by one or more bolus injections.

28. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anesthetic effective a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

a second anesthetic or sedative agent; and

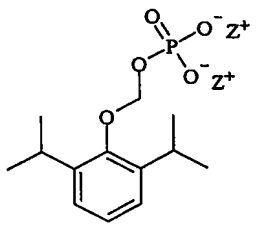
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

29. The composition of claim 28 wherein the second anesthetic or sedative agent is selected from the group consisting of midazolam, fentanyl, meperidine, propofol, and combinations thereof.

30. The composition of claim 29 wherein the second anesthetic or sedative agent is an opiate analgesic selected from the group consisting of meperidine, fentanyl, and combinations thereof.

31. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-emetic effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

a second anti-emetic agent; and

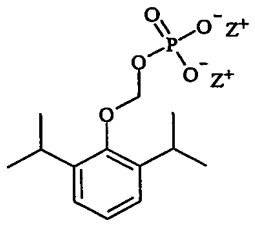
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 31 wherein the second anti-emetic agent is selected from the group consisting of anticholinergic agents, antihistaminergic agents, butyrophenones, phenothiazines, cannabinoids, benzamides, glucocorticoids, benzodiazepines, serotonergic antagonists, and combinations thereof.

33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 wherein the second anti-emetic agent is selected from the group consisting of atropine, hyoscine, diphenhydramine, prochlorperazine, chlorpromazine, haloperidol, droperidol, tetrahydrocannabinol, metoclopramide, trimethobenzamide, dexamethasone, lorazepam, odansetron, and combinations thereof.

34. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-pruritic effective amount of a compound of Formula I:

Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkali metal ion, and amine;

a second anti-pruritic agent; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

35. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34 wherein the second anti-pruritic agent is selected from the group consisting of antihistamines, corticosteroids, and combinations thereof.